

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 1766 which exempts the Delta Charter High School from the geographic and site restrictions on charter school operations. However, I wish to make it clear that this is an exceptional case, and I do not seek to weaken the accountability provisions provided in current law.

Broadly, I believe that the geographic and site restrictions can provide protection against the abuses engaged in by certain satellite charter school sites a few years ago. For the charter school system to provide meaningful educational reform, accountability must go hand in hand with flexibility. In many cases, excessive distance between a charter school site and its authorizing entity have led to inadequate oversight.

However, in the case of the Delta Charter High School, my concerns about oversight are mitigated by the fact that the school site is located in a district that neighbors the authorizing district. Also, signing this bill will allow the school to continue taking advantage of the facilities of Cabrillo College, in which it is housed, and which has been of apparent benefit to the students.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger